

*Frank Stephens  
Field Notes, 1926*

*March 15 - December 30, 1926*

SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM





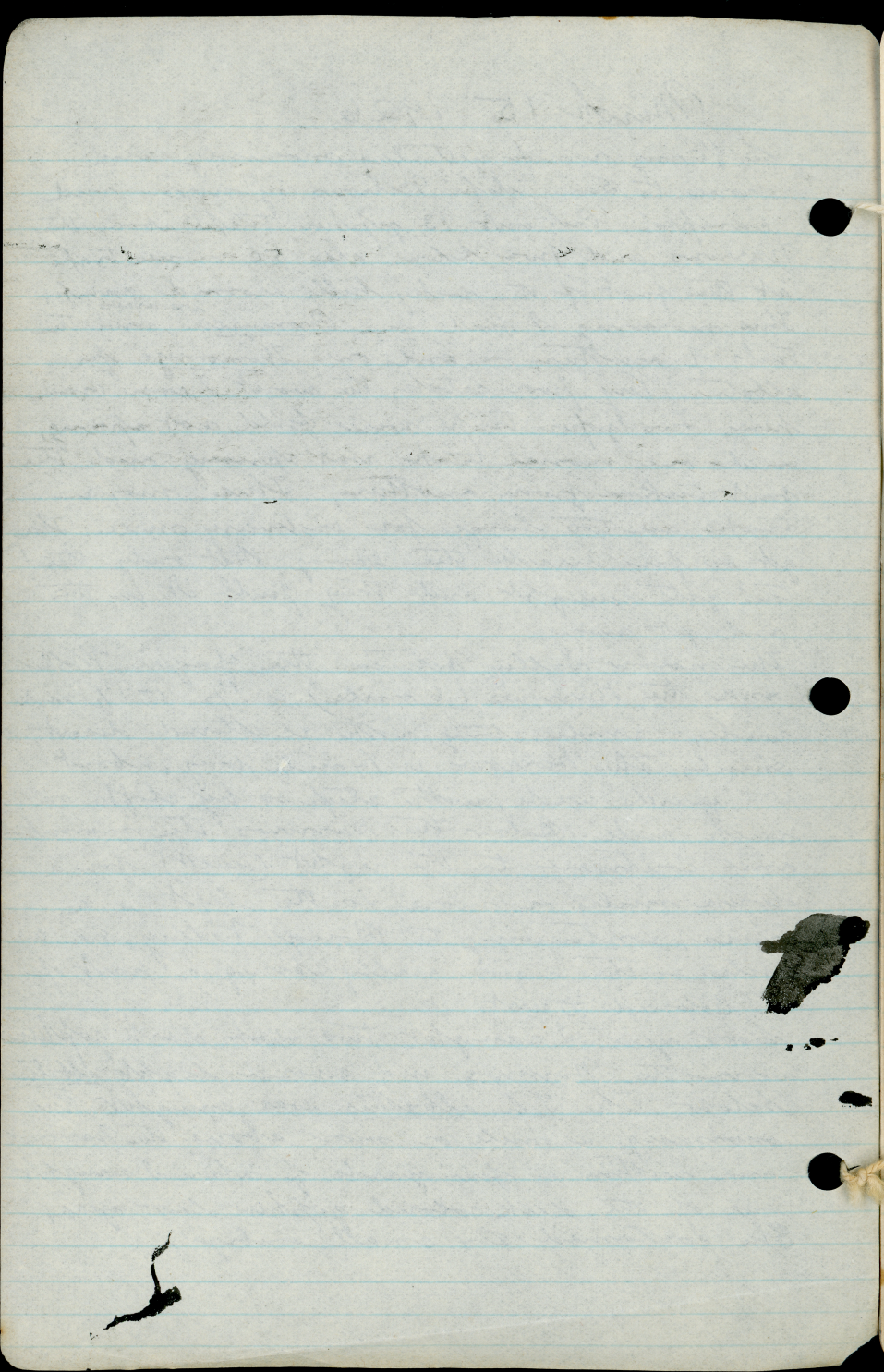
March 15 1926

Left my ranch yesterday morning and drove to San Felipe Narrows by noon and camped. Put out 13 gopher traps above the Narrows and five below, also 50 mouse traps at the foot of the rocky hills around <sup>vicinity</sup> camp. This morning I had one Peromyscus and the tail of another - and one Thomomys for albatus. Very poor catch, the worst I ever had here. Two gopher traps were filled, not spring, and one mouse trap was springy and the bait taken from another. These mouse traps are too large for ordinary mice. They got so far inside the spring that only the tail gets caught and they pull it in two and get away.

The narrow valley between the "Yagui" Wall and the Narrows (6 miles) is  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles wide, - sandy, stony, with scattered desert shrubs. The Narrows is  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile long, about 200 yards wide, with steep rocky cliffs on each side. Below the Narrows the mountains continue to the right (east) for a dozen miles or more. To the left is a mesa, continuing to Borego Valley, 8 or 10 miles, - this region really being a part of the Colorado Desert.

Last year I caught two ~~dark~~ dark gophers above the Narrows and several light albatus below. The I. p. albatus was caught this morning a mile or more above the Narrows and within a few yards of where I caught one of the dark colored gophers last year. She contained six small embryos.







March 16 1926

This morning the gopher traps contained two Thomomys n. parvulus, One was caught  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile above the Narrows, the other  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile further up, both being below where I got the T. p. albatrus; therefore the two species overlap here.

The Perognathus parvulus bongsi (?) was caught at the foot of the steep, rocky hillside below the Narrows. The type of P. p. arizonicola was taken here. If several specimens could be taken I believe the subspecies could be restored from synonymy.

March 12 1952

This morning the office traps contained two *Thomomys* or *Peromyscus*. One was caught in a trap set for *Peromyscus*, the other in a trap set for *Thomomys*. Both being *Thomomys* and got the 2 *Thomomys* traps. The two species

the *Thomomys* *peromyscus* *Thomomys* (2)  
was caught at the foot of the steep rocky hillside below the *Thomomys*. The type of *Thomomys* was taken here, off several specimens would be taken to believe the *Thomomys* could be related from *Thomomys*.



March 19 1926

Harpers Well, Imperial Co. Mex 17 1926  
Drove down here yesterday forenoon. The road is very bad, rocky with many chuck holes. Had to go out low often, was  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours driving 25 miles. Put out 7 gopher traps in the afternoon. This morning I had one albatus and it was red with little ants when found. Last evening I trapped three Neotoma a. venusta near the camp fire before going to bed. All were females. One contained two fetuses the other one. There is very little mammal sign here too dry a desert. There are small salt streams in the barrancas, and occasional fresh patches of junco, in which the few gophers make their burrows. There are no gopher signs on the level ground. Put out more gopher traps this morning, and tonight I got four gophers. Have 16 traps out now. Have not seen a dozen birds here yet. Saw an old fox track near the creek and tonight I put out a set of traps. Small hope of getting any. Thermometer yesterday 87°, cooler today, cloudy.

Bought two gophers







March 19 1926

Fish Spring, Imperial Co., Cal.

This not Fish Creek, Harpers Wall is on the bank of Fish Creek. This spring is within a mile or so of the north line of Imperial County. It is  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile from the shore of Salton Lake. From the springs to the lake is a patch of tules. The soil around here is very alkaline. There are numerous small screw bean trees and a very few small willows. Higher, toward the mountains are palo-verde trees and other desert shrubs.

We drove from Harpers Wall this forenoon, 29 miles. Passed Kane Spring. It looked so poor a trapping ground that I did not make a station there. Besides it is only five miles from Harpers Wall.

I have put out ten gopher traps, in wet, alkaline, salt grass ground. See no gopher sign elsewhere, - yet at least. Can find no meadow mice runs in the tules. This was all submerged when Salton Lake was at its highest <sup>stage</sup> several years ago and probably *Microtus* and *Reithrodontomys* have not become re-established. Prospects for other mice are poor on account of alkali.

Brought two gophers



March 11 1922

Fish Springs, Jefferson Co. Cal.

This is the first of the series of springs in the range of Fish Springs. This spring is within a mile or so of the north line of Imperial County. It is 1/2 mile from the shore of Salton Lake. From the spring to the lake is a patch of water. The soil around here is very alkaline. There are numerous small springs here. Some of the very fine small willows, *Hippurus*, toward the mountains are *Phacelia* and other desert shrubs.

We drove from Harper Hill this morning 2.9 miles, passed Fish Springs. It looked as if a trapping ground that I did not make a station there. Since it is only four miles from Harper Hill, I drove past out two *gopher* traps, in west alkaline, salt grass grounds, but no *gopher* signs elsewhere - but at least I can find no *Microtus* signs in the water. This was all *embury* water. Salton Lake was at its highest, several years ago and probably *Microtus* and *gopher* signs here but I have no record. I hope for the mice on the account of *gopher*.

Sample two *gopher*



March 21 1926

In the afternoon drove to Coachella and then southwest  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles to Mr. Wilsons, Had trouble on the way with stoppage of the gasoline supply pipe, Took an hour or more to find the trouble and remedy it, Got to Wilsons at 5 P.M. Made camp and put out a few traps, This morning I had one *Neotoma* and one *Perognathus parvirostris* and the tail of another. Wilson says there are a very few gophers in his alfalfa; apparently none outside, We could find but one mound, I set a trap, but suspect it is a *Dipodomys*. *Neotoma* are plentiful in the mesquit clumps in the adjoining meadow land, Wilson does not know of any foxes in the neighborhood.

This is about the middle of the valley, The soil is sandy, Small bunches of perennial plants are abundant, and the mesquit clumps are common, I set several traps this morning at burrows that looked like those of *Citellus*, but may be of *Dipodomys*, *Perognathus parvirostris* is probably common, but it is doubtful if any other species of *Perognathus* occurs here, with the possible exception of *longi*.



March 21 1922

In the afternoon drove to the hills and  
the southward 2 1/2 miles to the hills and  
trough on the way with the topography of the  
region sufficiently typical, but in some cases  
to find the trough and usually it is not  
the same at 2900 feet, but some of the  
few traps this morning I had one *Peromyscus*  
and one *Peromyscus maniculatus* and the tail  
of another, there was a very few  
others in this valley; apparently more common  
the could find but one *Peromyscus*, I set a trap  
but suspect it is a *Peromyscus*, *Peromyscus*  
are plentiful in the mountain groups in the  
adjacent mountainous land, there was  
not a trace of any fossils in the trap  
this is about the middle of the valley,  
the soil is sandy, small boulders of  
granitic material are abundant and the  
mountain groups are common, I set  
several traps this morning at various points  
but I did not find a single one, but may be of  
*Peromyscus*, *Peromyscus maniculatus* is  
probably common, but it is doubtful if any  
other species of *Peromyscus* occurs here, with  
the possible exception of *Peromyscus*.



March 23rd 1926

Drove to Palm Spring. Had difficulty to find a camping place, but finally camped in the public camp ground on the Indian Reservation. Did not get any traps out. This morning I went out east a mile or so. to set traps, but put out none yet. There are a few very old gopher burrows near the water, but I could find none elsewhere. Nearly all the gopher mounds have been dug into, apparently by dogs. This place is ruined for collecting. There is quite a town here now, and a large floating population of Mexicans, as well as quite a number of Indians. This is a slack season for work for Mexicans and there are many Mexican families camped here.

In this morning's tramp I watched for tracks in the sandy road. No travel in it since yesterday. I saw a number of jack-rabbit and cottontail tracks, one *Lepus* and three mice tracks, apparently *Peromyscus*. I'll try again this afternoon.

It looks as if there had been no rain in this part of the Desert since the early part of the winter. All the short lived vegetation is dried and withered. Birds are very scarce. It is about as poor a collecting season as I ever saw here, and I have been here many times.

Toward night I put out 40 mouse traps in the lower part of Lagunita Canon, just below the falls and 2 miles from camp. Rocky canon.

24th. In the mouse traps I had two *Peromyscus* specimens and the tail of a *Perognathus* *penicillatus*. I am disgusted with Palm Springs as a collecting locality.



March 23rd - 1924

Went to Palm Spring. Not difficult to find a camping place. I finally camped in the public camp ground at the bottom of the mountain. Did not get any traps out this morning I went out with a rifle as we to set traps but did not move yet. There are a few very old upper houses on the mountain but I could find none. Nearly all the upper mammals have been dug into apparently by dogs. This place is suited for collection. There is quite a lot of moss and a large floating population of fish. As well as quite a number of birds. This is a good season for work for fish and there are many mammals. Fish are caught here. In the morning I started for traps in the early noon. I found in it much vegetation. I saw a number of jack rabbit and cottontail tracks, one *Lepus* and three other tracks, apparently *Peromyscus*. All the signs of the afternoon. It looks as if there had been no rain in the last of the month since the early part of the winter. All the short lived vegetation is dried and withered. Birds are scarce. It is about as poor a collecting place as I ever saw here, and I have been here many times. I found eight traps out 40 mouse traps in the lower part of the mountain just above the fall and I made from camp, back away 2 or 3 miles. In the mouse traps I had two *Peromyscus* and the tail of a *Peromyscus*. *Peromyscus*. I am disappointed with Palm Springs as a collecting locality.



March 25 1926

yesterday afternoon I drove to the Whitewater ranch at the lower end of the San Geronimo Pass. This is the old Whitewater stage station. The railroad station of Whitewater is a mile or more further down the Pass. There is a "service station" here, with free camp ground sheltered by trees along the ditch. It is 12 miles from Palm Springs, alt. about 1350. The wind is blowing hard here, as usual. It sucks down thru the Pass to the Desert. Clouds are coming down into the Pass, but melt before they get here. I suspect it is raining "inside". This is the type locality of Dipodomys similis (?) Rhoads, now considered synonymous with simiolus.

Put out a few gopher traps and 25 mouse traps; this morning I had three gophers, one Dipodomys, and a Peromyscus that looks somewhat like P. b. truei, also two Perognathus tails, probably penicillatus. There is a small flock of Zonotrichia leucophrys here that may be wintering, as it is too early for this subspecies to be migrating. Two were caught in mouse traps.

March 27 1926

This afternoon I caught a Leitellus c. chloris, the only one seen here yet. Have seen no ~~at~~ Ammodramus, nor any Seiurus thrashers, though I used to get them here. Caught two Rithiodontomys in salt grass in the orchard.



March 22 1952

Spent afternoon I drove to the Whitewater  
road at the lower end of the San Bernardino  
Pass. This is the old Whitewater stage station.  
The railroad station of Whitewater is a  
mile or more further down the Pass. There  
is a "service station" here, with four service pumps  
abandoned by town about the date. It is 15  
miles from Palm Springs, alt about 1850. The  
road is burning hard here, as usual. It is  
down from the Pass to the Desert. There are  
covering down into the Pass but well before  
they get here I suspect it is raining "inside".  
This is the type locality of *D. fuscescens*  
*cinerea* (D. Black), more common in *serotinus*  
with *cinerea*.

But not a few other traps and 20 more  
traps; this morning I had three *D. fuscescens* on  
*D. fuscescens* and a *D. serotinus* that look  
identical like I to town, also two *D. serotinus*  
etc, probably *cinerea*, there is a small  
flock of *trochiloides* *lutescens* here that  
may be interesting, as it is the only for  
this subspecies to be migrating, the ones  
caught in cover traps.

March 27 1952

This afternoon I caught a *leptotila* at  
Whitewater. The only one ever here yet. There  
were no *leptotila* *leptotila*, and only  
a few *leptotila*, though I used to get  
them here. Caught two *leptotila* in  
salt grass in the valley.



March 27 1926.

I haven't seen a bat, or a "horned toad", nor a snake of any kind. It is by far the poorest collecting season I have seen here. We are having the usual strong west winds here in the Pass. The Pass is about two miles wide, a regular desert except where the few irrigating ditches keep vegetation green. The creosote bushes are stunted, as are also the plentiful "cholla" cactuses, - two or three species. There are some Cereus and Echinocactus cactuses, and a few Yucca baccata. There are a few lizards of the small, common species, but I have seen none of the larger species that should be rather common. Onychomys appear to be more common today. My mouse traps have taken six so far, I caught but one, all were leucophrys. The gophers are mostly patchy, with more or less of the winter pelage on the rump. Evidently there are two species here.

The Dipodomys (1643) puzzles me. With nothing but meadow to go by I can't place it. It is probably parvus, but if so it is out of its known range, and what are two sub-species of D. merriami doing here together?







March 30 1926

We are camped about two miles south of Cabezón, at the foot of the "Hall Gradi". This is about ten miles from our last camp. It is a fairly good collecting ground. Gophers are common, probably two species. Peromyscus m. sonoriensis are abundant in the valley land, and I got one P. c. insignis on the steep, brushy mountain side, also one Reithrodontomys in brush a little ways up the hillside. I took one Dipodomys a. cabezonae last night, in the valley land. I see but little sign of their presence here, but am trying for them tonight. I took one Microtus today in a springy piece of grass and Juncus. This afternoon I caught a Scotellus b. fisheri, the only one seen on the trip yet. Got one Perognathus p. bangsi last night. I am coming to believe that P. p. arvicola will be restored to good standing in time if more specimens can be found. A Neotoma caught last night had lost nearly half its tail. It is too large for gilva and may possibly be venusta. It was caught under a mesquit. I did not know venusta come this far west.

We are told that Bomb and another man from the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology camped here a few days ago. I can see but few signs of their trapping here.

The wind has been strong all day and it is uncomfortably cold. I'll be glad to get away from San Geronimo Pass.

31st. Caught 4 Perognathus fallax here. But one was fit to skin.





April 2nd 1926

Threatening, stormy weather ~~noon~~ of the 31st,  
so we moved. Light rain from Calverton to  
Redlands, Cold. Stopped at my brother's place  
in Riverside. Put out traps for gophers  
yesterday and caught several, - three big ones.  
Rained a little yesterday and today. Shall  
stay here until the weather gets better.  
Have lost several gopher traps here, cats or  
dogs pull them out and carry them off,  
probably for the gophers in them.  
Lost 8 traps here.

Today I have put  
out a few gopher traps, and so far have  
caught one today. There are quite a num-  
ber of old poplar trees around the house  
and about five acres here has not been  
plowed for several years. The gophers  
have concentrated here, but we have  
nearly cleaned them out. I have five  
and Jack has three.

The mouse traps set here have caught  
only *Peromyscus m. gambeli* so far. They  
are abundant.



April 2 and 1922

Threatening, clearing weather, wind of the 21st.  
as we moved. Light rain from 8 a.m. to  
11 a.m. 21st. 22nd. 23rd. 24th. 25th. 26th. 27th. 28th. 29th. 30th.  
in Riverside. But not traps for aphids.  
yesterday and caught several - their legs were  
blinded a little yesterday and today shall  
stay here until the weather gets better.  
Have lost several aphids traps here, cats or  
dogs pull them out and carry them off.  
Probably for the aphids in them.  
Lost 2 traps here.

April 8 1926

Still showery, The old house we are camping in hasn't a door or window left. There are four rooms so when the rain blows in we shift to some room to the leeward. There is a small cellar under the house and we make a fire there for cooking when the rain falls. It is not comfortable, but it beats a tent when the wind blows, as it does most of the time. As I took up my traps yesterday I hadn't much to skin today. I have put out a few gopher traps, and so far have caught one today. There are quite a number of old pepper trees around the house and about five acres here has not been plowed for several years. The gophers have concentrated here, but we have nearly cleaned them out. I have five and Jack has three.

The mouse traps set here have caught only Peromyscus m. gambeli so far. They are abundant.

All the land around this region is cultivated, some orchards, but mostly grain.



April 8 1922

Still clearing, the old house we are  
camping in seems a queer or unusual  
left. Then our poor horses as when the  
rain comes in are shift to some more to  
the house, there is a small white house  
the house and one made a fire there for  
cooking when the rain falls. It is not  
comfortable, but it beats a tent when  
the animal flows, as it does much of the  
time. As I took up my traps yesterday I  
hadn't much to skin today, I have four  
out a few paper traps, and as for some  
caught one today. There are quite a number  
out of old paper traps around the house  
and about five acres but we must have  
planned for several years, the paper  
traps concentrated but not one paper  
nearly cleared that off, I have four  
and lost the three.  
The mouse traps set here have caught  
only *Peromyscus* or *Peromyscus* so far, but  
are abundant.

April 4 1926

Yesterday we drove thru Parris to about two miles east of Ethonae, on the Winchester road. As rain threatened we camped at a vacant house, as near as I can remember the locality (which is much changed in appearance by cultivation) the place where I caught the type specimen of Dipodomys stephensi is about a mile southeast of here, at the base of low mountains.

Yesterday I bought a dozen wooden rat traps in Riverside. In the afternoon I put them out where I believe I got the D. stephensi. This morning all I got from them was one D. agilis, with its head eaten by squirrels, which are abundant here.

Jack joined us at Riverside. Yesterday he put out some traps in brushy land a mile or more northeast of camp. This morning he had several Dipodomys, one being parvus, which he gave me. If not too wet I'll put out traps this afternoon when Jack had his last night.

All the level land in this region is cultivated, some orchards, but mostly grain.



April 4 1922

Yesterday we drove from Paris to about  
two miles east of Etampes, on the 11th route  
and, as usual, there were no camps at a  
certain place, as usual as I am in the  
the locality (which is much changed in  
appearance by cultivation) the place where I  
caught the type specimen of *Dipodomys*  
*stephensis* is about a mile west of Paris,  
at the base of the mountains.

Yesterday I caught a dozen more of the  
same in Etampes. In the afternoon I got  
them out and I believe I got the *D.*  
*stephensis*. This morning all I got from them  
was one *D. agilis*, with its feet rather of  
agility, which are somewhat large  
back joints as at Etampes, but they are  
not so large as those in Etampes. This  
morning we had several *Dipodomys* in  
being found, which in some cases, if  
not two and all but not this  
afternoon when I got back. This last night  
all the land found in this region is  
cultivated, some orchards, but mostly  
grain.

April 7 1926

I put out 55 traps the afternoon of the 4th, where Jack caught the D. purvus. Next morning I had in the traps 5 Dipodomys agilis, several Peromyscus m. gambeli and a white-crowned sparrow. Rain fell most of the day and I got a soaking going to the traps. That night it rained hard and I found most of my traps sprung, with but one Peromyscus and four white-crowned sparrows in them. Apparently the heavy rain drops sprung many traps. This morning rain is falling, and I am waiting for the weather to clear enough to let me get to my traps without getting a wetting. So far there has been four inches of rain, with more in prospect. My traps are a mile and a half away, in a patch of an acre or so of brushy land on a rocky knoll, surrounded by cultivated land.

There is a brood of young strikes in an old pump house near here.



April 7 1922

I look out 8 traps the afternoon of  
the 4th, when I caught the 1st.  
I saw, that morning I look in the  
traps 2 *Dipodomys agilis*, several *Dip-*  
*odomys* or *gambelii* and a white-eared  
squirrel. I saw all most of the day and  
left a looking going to the traps. I look  
might it would look and I found most  
of my traps empty, with but one *Dipodomys*  
and four white-eared squirrels in  
them. Apparently the heavy rain  
opening some traps. This morning rain  
is falling, and I am waiting for the weather  
to clear enough to let me get to my traps  
without getting a wetting. So far there  
has been four inches of rain, with more  
in prospect. My traps are a mile and a  
half away, in a patch of corn and  
so of course I have to walk through  
unpleasantly wet cultivated land.  
There is a kind of young *Staphylinus* in  
the old pump house near here.



April 11 1926

On the afternoon of the 9th, we camped on the summit of the Temecula grade, a mile or more from the line between Riverside and San Diego counties, Alt. about 1200'. The place is thick chaparral with some scrub oaks, etc, with many granite boulders on the mountain sides. Caught two Dipodomys a. similans. A mile or two northwest, ~~at~~ perhaps 800' or 400 feet lower altitude, D. agilis are probably common in the open plain, but in the opposite direction D. a. similans probably occurs nearly or quite to the sea. It would be interesting to get comparable material from similar ground and altitudes on the two sides of the mountains. Drove home the afternoon of the 10th. As the roads were in bad condition from the heavy rains I thought best not to try to go via Warner's, but stuck to the paved road.



April 11 1922

On the afternoon of the 10th, we camped  
on the summit of the same ridge, &  
made no more from the line between  
Bismarck and San Diego counties, but  
about 1200'. The place is thick chaparral  
with some scrub oaks, etc., with many  
granite boulders on the mountain side.  
Thought two *Dipodomys* or *Peromyscus*, &  
one or two *Neotomas*, but perhaps 200'  
or 400' feet down altitude, *D. agilis* are  
probably common in the open places, but  
in the opposite direction *D. or. sinuatus*  
probably occurs nearly as far to the sea,  
it would be interesting to get comparisons  
with material from similar ground and  
altitudes on the two sides of the mountain.  
There were the afternoon of the 10th,  
as the roads were in bad condition from  
the heavy rains of thought, but we to try  
to go over Thomas, but stuck to the  
familiar road.



July - 1926

I left San Diego the morning of July 2nd, and drove to near the northeast foot of Immacula grade and camped. Sam Hester is with me, I wanted to see how near Dipodomys agilis agilis and D. a. similans come together. I had Sam put out traps in the brush on the hillside near camp and put mine out in the wash of the creek bottom at the edge of the plain. Between grain fields, I saw very little sign of pocket rats.

The morning of the 3rd, all I had in 20 traps was the tail of a Perognathus. Sam had one adult and two young Dipodomys. In the forenoon we drove to Aguanga, and put out traps in the afternoon.

Aguanga Valley is mostly Immacula River bottom land. The valley is about two miles long and half a mile to a mile and a half wide. The soil is loam, mostly a light sandy loam. Much of the vegetation is Artemisia ("sage brush"). There are some mesquit bushes and also what the desert people call "desert willow", a shrub with a trumpet shaped blossom. The hillside have a mixed growth of arid region shrubs and chaparral, with the chaparral more abundant on the granite ridges. I place cactuses are abundant, mostly "tuna" (Opuntia). I put out traps in one cactus patch of an acre or more and took over twenty Neotoma intermedia.

There was lots of rat and mice signs in the bottom land and abundant rabbit tracks. The bait was taken from our traps every night and many spring, but the catch was good. The last night traps here, carried off by rats and ~~some~~ rabbits. We left Aguanga noon of the 7th.





In the afternoon of July 7<sup>th</sup> we  
stopped at three places between  
Aguanga and Warners and looked  
through the brush for tree vicinior  
but without seeing or hearing any.

pieces of melon. Almost every morning  
I get a rabbit mostly Sylvilagus.  
Sometimes in the day time I get a  
Leptotus latidorsus. They spoil very  
quickly if I don't get them soon. I  
usually visit such traps three times  
a day. Today at noon I found an  
immature Scott Oriole in one of the  
steel traps. It was dead, but still held  
bits of melon pulp in its bill. The  
Scott Orioles are bad on grapes. They  
are the most common species now.  
I often flush 5 or 6, sometimes half  
a dozen, from the grape vines.  
Occasionally there are Bullock's and  
eventually melon. The following



In the afternoon of July 2 the men  
stopped at their places between  
Albuquerque and Thomas and looked  
through the brush for the vicinities  
but without seeing or hearing any

La Puerta Valley, San Diego Co Cal

August 21 1926

I have been baiting steel traps with pieces of melon. Almost every morning I get a rabbit, mostly Sylvilagus. Sometimes in the day time I get a Lestotus laticaudus. They spoil very quickly, if I don't get them soon, I usually visit such traps three times a day. Today at noon I found an immature Scott Oriole in one of the steel traps. It was dead, but still held bits of melon pulp in its bill. The Scott Orioles are bad on grapes. They are the most common species now. I often flush 3 or 4, sometimes half a dozen, from the grape vines. Occasionally there are bullocki and ewallatus meloni. The Vireos



*enceladus volutus*, the *thelma*

occasionally there are *thelma* and

in *thelma*, from the *thelma*.

I often find *thelma* *thelma* *thelma*

are the most common species now,

*thelma* *thelma* are both as *thelma*. They

live of *thelma* *thelma* in the hills. The

that *thelma* *thelma* *thelma* *thelma*

immature *thelma* *thelma* in one of the

or day. Today at noon I found an

usually visit such traps three times

possibly if I don't get them soon, I

*thelma* *thelma*, they *thelma* *thelma*

sometimes in the day time I get a

I get a *thelma* *thelma* *thelma*

pieces of *thelma*, *thelma* *thelma* *thelma*

I have been looking at traps with

August 21 1922

to *thelma* *thelma* *thelma*



second in abundance. They are persistent grape eaters. Early in the season Black-headed Grosbeaks were most abundant but they are mostly gone now. The birds got fully half of the grapes this fall.

Yesterday I put out traps in some sand dunes on Telford's place. This morning I had one Dipodomys deserti. The "pinacate" beetles came up the rolled out bait in the daytime. At 5 o'clock this afternoon I rebaited the traps. In one trap I found a ♂ D. deserti so thoroughly cooked in the sun that it broke in two in handling. It must have been caught some time in the forenoon. I don't recall another instance of this feeding in the daytime.



second in abundance. They are persistent  
grapher later. Early in the season black-  
headed Grosbeaks were much abundant  
but they are mostly gone now. The  
birds get fully half of the crops  
this fall.

Yesterday I put out traps in  
some small clumps on Buffalo plain.  
This morning I had one *Siphonanthus*  
beatus. The "finestest" better than  
up the valley and built in the clump.  
At 6 o'clock this afternoon I retraced  
the traps, for one trap I found a  
S. beatus so thoroughly soaked in  
the snow that it broke in two in halves.  
It must have been caught at some  
time in the forenoon. I don't recall  
another instance of their feeding in  
the clumps.

La Puerta Valley, Cal,  
Sept 3 1926

In making the round of my traps this morning in one trap I found a Dipodomys merriami similis and a Perognathus penicillatus, I do not remember ever before taking animals of two different genera in the same trap at the same time.

They laid side by side with their heads close to the trigger. They were numbers 1898 and 1899.

Sept 9 1926

Bought an Onychomys torquatus this morning, but it was so badly eaten by ants that it could not be skinned. It is the second I know of for the valley.



Dr. G. B. Vetter, Cal.  
Sept 3, 1922

In making the record of my traps this  
morning in one trap I found a  
*Thomomys umbrinus umbrinus* and  
a *Peromyscus maniculatus*, I also  
not remember ever before taking  
animals of two different species in  
the same trap at the same time.  
They laid side by side with the  
heads close to the trigger. They  
were numbered 1898 and 1899.

Sept 9, 1922

Brought an *Onychomys leucogaster* this  
morning, but it was so badly eaten by  
ants that it could not be saved. It is  
the second I know of for the valley.



Dulzura, San Diego Co. Cal.

Sept. 14 to 18, incl. 1926

Camped just across the creek from Schuckless house. The barometer registered 1400 feet alt. The gate across the road to the old Marsh place was locked. There was no water in the creek as it had been shut off at the Barrett dam some time.

After the first night I put out part of the traps about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile further up the road (south) around a barley field. The barometer made it about 200 feet higher. I kept the catch of the two places separate and the altitude given on the labels will identify them.

The old Marsh place where Marshes typhus were taken is about two miles south or south west of my camp.

A *Microtus* found drowned in the spring was too far gone to save.

I kept the water trap set, but from some reason caught nothing in it.



Thompson, Sam Briggs Co. Cal.

Sept. 14 to 18, 1932

Remained just across the creek from  
Sobek's house, the location was  
about 1400 feet alt. The gate across the  
road to the old ranch place was  
locked. There was no water in the  
creek as it had been shut off at  
the dam about four years ago.  
After the first night I put a  
part of the traps about 3/4 of a mile  
further up the road (west) across a  
small field. The horses were at  
about 200 feet higher I kept the  
creek of the two places separate  
and the altitude given on the  
label will identify them.  
The old ranch place, where perhaps  
there were once is about two miles  
north or south west of our camp.  
A Mexican found charcoal in  
the spring area to far gone to save  
I kept the water tap off, but from some  
reason enough water in it.



Dec 25 1926

We came to La Puente the 18th. On the 20th, we drove down to Carrizo Creek. The recent rains had washed the roads some but not badly, until we got to the main creek, (Carrizo). We went down the creek bed about four miles. There had been a flood in the main creek, but we got along all right until the road left the creek bed, from there on the flood had washed the banks badly. Where the road left the creek the perpendicular banks were 15 to 20 feet high. Someone had very recently shoveled a passage down at the old road, but it was so steep that we could not pull up it. We went a quarter of a mile further down and found a place where we got up the bank, but could get no further on account of the sand, so we camped there, about a mile above the old stage station. We found this a good collecting ground. The second night was stormy with misty rain. At noon the 24th day then the weather looked very threatening so we loaded up and turned back. We had trouble getting up the hill from Tallicito Valley in the rain which was turning to snow. Yesterday morning there was an inch of snow around the cabin, but it has melted today except behind bushes. The days are short and cold and more or less stormy, so trapping is not very good.







Dec 30 1926

Since Christmas the nights have been cold. Thermometer at sunrise has registered  $24^{\circ}$  to  $28^{\circ}$ , Ground frozen in the morning.

The others have been hearing Lacombe Thrashers occasionally and have seen two or three, but they were very wild. Today we all put in most of the day hunting for Lacombe Thrashers. Jack saw one and thinks he wounded it but he failed to find. No one else saw any. Sam killed a Black-throated sparrow and gave it to me. I'll freeze it tonight and take it in in the flesh. He saw others. We intend driving to the San Felipe Creek tomorrow afternoon, and to San Diego the next day.



Dec 30 1922

Since Christmas the night has been  
cold, thermometer at summer temperature  
25° to 28°, ground frozen in the morning.  
The storm has been blowing steadily  
throughout the day and has been the  
cause of much trouble, but they were very cold, today  
an all part in most of the day blowing  
for several hours, but not so much  
today. It was so cold that it was  
difficult to see the sun any, I was killed  
in black-throated sparrows and gave it to  
me, all birds it brought and take it in  
in the flock, the sun often, the interest  
driving to the sun like back tomorrow  
afternoon, and to see things the next day.

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